

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/064,454
Docket No.: 8327-US-PA

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 5-6, 8 and 10-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Becker (US 5,379,379) in view of Mills (US 5,497,355) and Pollak (US 6,618,724). The Office Action further rejected claims 2-3 as being unpatentable over Becker in view of Mills, Pollak and Mann (US 5,954,813). The Office Action also rejected claim 4 and 9 as being unpatentable over Becker in view of Mills, Pollak and A.P.A.

The undersigned would like to thank Examiner Pierre Vital for granting a telephonic interview on March 2, 2006, during which the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection on claims 1, 5-6, 8 and 10-11 were discussed. More specifically, the undersigned and the Examiner discussed the rejections and the teachings of the Pollak reference. During the telephone interview, arguments were provided to the Examiner that Pollak teaches that when all characters of the strings have been compared, the compare operation ceases and a match is reported; and if a file entry having a matching filename is found, the file pointer may then be followed to locate any existing file contents (1:25-31). In brief, Pollak does not combine the characters to form the string, and the characters are discarded and the file pointer is used for further application. Accordingly, Pollak is silent about comparing the characters before the characters are combined to form a string.

After discussing these matters, the Examiner agreed with the arguments. The Examiner further recommended amending claims 1 and 8 to correct minor antecedent basis errors.

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According to the suggestions of the Examiner during the interview, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 8 to correct the antecedent basis errors.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-11 are in allowable condition.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-11 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Date: *March 20, 2006*

Respectfully submitted,

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